

In the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method for minimizing the Inter-Document Zone (IDZ) in multi-pass printing system architectures₁ with print engines employing asynchronous paper delivery₂; and providing control over paper feed and imaging times comprising:

- a) receiving input electronic data of an image intended to be printed;
- b) inspecting said data to determine a lead edge (L.E.) blank border of said image; and
- c) on a page by page basis determining whether said blank border exceeds a minimum design distance and adjust imaging and paper delivery timing accordingly to increase subsequent printing speed.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein when the L.E. blank border exceeds the minimum design distance, the images corresponding to that page are printed sooner than nominally.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

- d) inspecting said data to determine a trail edge (T.E.) blank border of said image; and
- e) on a page by page basis determining whether said blank borders exceed a minimum design distance and adjust imaging and paper delivery timing accordingly to increase subsequent printing speed such that when the T.E. blank border exceeds the minimum design distance, the image corresponding the subsequent document are printed sooner than nominally.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3 wherein when the T.E. blank borders exceeds the minimum design distance, any transition event timing is performed sooner than nominally.

Claims 5-20 (Cancelled)